September 18th 2014 Meeting Program

Prehistoric sites on the East Fork of the Trinity River

Long-time HAS member, Wilson W. "Dub" Crook, will discuss some exciting new discoveries he and his colleague, Mark Hughston, have made recently at archeological sites along the East Fork of the Trinity River at the Thursday, September 18 meeting of the Houston Archeological Society. The meeting, which begins at 7:00 p.m. in MD Anderson Hall at the University of St. Thomas, will also be the Annual General Meeting of the Society when the new Board of Directors for 2014 - 2015 will be elected. All members are urged to attend and cast their votes.

Mr. Crook's presentation, entitled “Some Unique New Discoveries from Late Prehistoric Sites along the East Fork of the Trinity” will include discussions on three new pottery vessels, a zoomorphic lithic artifact found in a cache of tools, and an engraved slate gorget. Dub will not only describe the discoveries but will speculate on their implications for trade with the Caddo peoples in East Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Mr. Crook has traveled extensively, starting his adventures as a child. His father was Wilson W. Crook, Jr., who was past President and Fellow of the Texas Archeological Society. As a result of his father's lifelong interest in archeology and paleoanthropology, Dub grew up going to and working on archeological sites all around the world. While his archeological research has focused primarily on the Upper Trinity River watershed, he has also worked on sites in West Texas, New Mexico, Nevada, California and Virginia. He has also worked in the rift valley of East Africa, on early man sites in South Africa, in South America (Bolivia, Argentina and Peru) and in Kazakhstan.

Mr. Crook conducted his undergraduate work in mineralogy at Southern Methodist University in Dallas and his graduate work in mineralogy and rare-earth crystal chemistry at the University of Michigan. He is a Life Member of the Dallas Archeological Society, a member of the Houston and Texas Archeological Societies, a member of the Center for the Study of the First Americans, and a Life Member of the Gault School of Archeological research.

Mr. Crook and his long-time field partner, Mr. Mark D. Hughston, have been working on exploring and redefining the Late Prehistoric occupation along the East Fork of the Trinity and its tributaries for the past 42 years. This has resulted in the publication of 29 individual and joint papers on the area to date. Messrs. Crook and Hughston are currently working on a monograph which will pull all their research on the East Fork together into a single publication.

For a campus map, go to www.stthom.edu and look for the Interactive Map, Building 20, Anderson Hall. Street parking is available as well as paid parking ($2) Moran Center Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. For more information about this program, contact lindagorski@cs.com.
President’s Message

HAS Members and Friends,

So many exciting things to announce this month I hardly know where to begin!

First of all - It’s that time of year again. The Annual General Meeting of the Houston Archeological Society will be held during the September 18th meeting and members will vote on their new Board of Directors. This is a really important meeting that will determine the leadership for 2014 – 2015. Come have a say in your Society, vote, enjoy Dub Crook's presentation, and stay after the meeting to share some special snacks to celebrate a new year and a new Board.

I am also proud to announce that I attended a meeting of the Texas Historical Commission’s Texas Archeological Stewards Network in Kerrville, Texas on 23rd August 2014. The TASN serves a critical role in bringing public archeology to life in their own communities. Founded in 1984 the TASN is celebrating it’s 30th anniversary this year. The “stewards” are selected volunteers – about 100 across the State of Texas - whose efforts in preservation, education and research have become an essential part of the THC’s statewide archeological program. The TASN is one of the most innovative and successful programs of its kind in the nation and has served as a model for similar organizations in other states.

But here’s why I’m so proud! Do you know how many members of the HAS are also members of the Texas Archeological Stewards Network? Here’s a list – Beth and Pat Aucoin, Louis Aulbach, Linda Gorski, Dick Gregg, Joe Hudgins, Kathleen Hughes, Brenda Jackson, Don Keyes, Sheldon Kindall, Tom Nuckols, Sandra and Johnney Pollan, Sandy Rogers, Gary Ryman, and Steve Salyer. Texas is a big State yet sixteen of the hundred or so stewards are HAS members! Isn’t that awesome! Two of our stewards, Dick Gregg and Sheldon Kindall were among the very first THC Stewards and received their 30 years of service award this year. Two of our members, Sandy Rogers and Don Keyes, received the Norman Flagg Certificate for Outstanding Performance at the meeting, and Beth and Pat Aucoin, Dick Gregg and Tom Nuckols received the Norman Flagg Honorable Mention. Way to go HAS members!

I’m also proud to announce that on October 18, the Houston Archeological Society along with the Houston Museum of Natural Science, Rice University Archeology, and TxDOT will sponsor International Archeology Day at the HMNS. This is a major event that is sure to draw a huge audience. See a complete article in this newsletter.

And, finally, I’m proud to announce that HAS member Dr. Jason W. Barrett will kick off Texas Archeology Month on October 1st with a major presentation at the Wortham Giant Screen Theater at the Houston Museum of Natural Science with a program on the Dimond Knoll Project in which so many of you participated. The program starts at 6:30 p.m. and I hope many of you will be there to cheer Jason on and see yourselves on the giant screen.

Thanks for a terrific year, HAS members! Look forward to seeing you on September 18th.

Linda Gorski – HAS President
Minutes of the Houston Archeological Society Membership Meeting
August 21st, 2014

President Linda Gorski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all members and guests. There were a total of 60 attendees, including 13 guests signed in.

Linda made the following announcements:

- Treasurers Report - Checking account $7,271.74, Savings account $11,964.66

- HAS Membership – 142

- Nominating Committee - Bob Sewell, Tracy Connell and Lenore Psencik. Bob Sewell presented the slate of nominees for the 2014-2015 HAS Board, including President Linda Gorski, Vice President Louis Aulbach, Treasurer Tom Nuckols, Secretary Bob Sewell, and Director-at-Large Mike Woods. Members will be asked to vote on slate of nominees at the September meeting.

- Discussion on HAS Publishing - The Journal hasn’t been published in 5 years in part due to costs. Dub Crook has stepped up to not only champion the initiative but has offered to fund publishing costs into the future. Dub and Louis Aulbach have devised a way forward. Members will receive a hardcopy of the Journal once published, as well as major universities. Members will receive a disk with all 3 Powell reports once the 3rd report has been completed. Goal is to publish the Journal by year end. Dub will be the Editor of the Journal, but he needs content, and he is asking for members to forward submissions to DubCrook@Kingwoodcable.com for consideration. You can review past publications on the HAS website for examples and ideas. http://www.txhas.org

- Fannin Battleground - A joint emergency archeological effort by William Self Associates, included THC Stewards and a few HAS members. Metal detector survey last weekend led by Gregg Dimnick recovered several battle related artifacts on a 3 acre plot across from the battleground site. Property will be turned into an RV park. Go to the HAS FaceBook page to view pictures of the field work https://www.facebook.com/groups/123659814324626/, or visit http://www.txhas.org/past-projects-fannin-battleground-survey.html on our HAS website to see John Rich’s article

- Lab work at Tait Ranch - Jason Barrett performed some preliminary lab work last weekend at the Tait Ranch. Jason has discovered some butchering marks on bison and deer bone recovered from the Cottonfield section during the 2014 TAS field school.

- International Archeology Day, October 18th – Hosted by the Houston Museum of Natural Science. HAS will be part of a large group of archeological entities participating, including colleges and CRM firms.

- “Dinner with the Friends of Archeology” Organization - Sunday, August 24th at 5:00 p.m. at Fadi’s Mediterranean restaurant, 8383 Westheimer.

The evening’s program, presented by Justin Parkhoff and Jessica Stika, highlighted the conservation effort for the Civil War gunboat the Westfield that sunk during the Battle of Galveston on January 1, 1863.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. Attendees enjoyed snacks provided by Linda Gorski. The next HAS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, 2014.

Lenore Psencik, Secretary Houston Archeological Society
I know many HAS members joined the Texas Archeological Society this past year to attend field school at the Tait Ranch. Well, here’s your chance to get together again with those folks you met and worked with in Columbus.

The 85th Annual Meeting of the TAS will be held October 24 – 26 at the Embassy Suites in San Marcos. From over 100 concurrent sessions and papers about Texas archeology to mealtime presentations by world-famous archeologists to extracurricular activities including tours of The Gault School of Archeology Research Lab at Texas State University, the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, and the Bullock Texas State History Museum, this is sure to be an action packed meeting.

There’s also the silent auction in which TAS members donate items, and other TAS members buy those items. I have picked up numerous fabulous books on Texas archeology at this auction as well as many of the items in my dig kit! Several HAS members will be giving papers at this meeting including Linda Gorski, Louis Aulbach and Sandy Rogers so come support the home team! You can find all the information about the meeting at http://www.txarch.org/Activities/AnnualMeeting/am2014/. Hope to see you there!

Linda Gorski, HAS President

Lab Dates for September and October 2014

September 15th and 29th: Plans are to document Group 2 of the Marshall Black collection. This assemblage from San Patricio County contains six projectile points, one pottery sherd, one bead, one tinkler and one shell tool.

October 13th & 27th: We will begin documenting Group 3. This framed group contains 27 projectile points from Frio County and the analysis will probably continue on November 17th.

We will meet at the usual time and place, 7-9 p.m., Room 103 (lower level), Sewall Hall, Rice University. All labs meet on Monday evenings. Founders Court/Visitor Parking is directly across from Sewall Hall and requires a credit or debit card for access. Cost is about $3.50/hour. Visit www.rice.edu/maps for a map of the campus and the parking area. Any member wishing to be included on the lab e-mail list should contact Beth Aucoin at ekpj.aucoin@prodigy.net.

Beth Aucoin
**International Archeology Day**

**October 18th, 2014**

Houston Archeological Society Members!!! Come join us as the Houston Museum of Natural Science celebrates International Archeology Day on Saturday, October 18th, 2014, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. in the Museum’s Glassell and Grand Halls. HAS will have a major role in this celebration and we’ll need several volunteers to help us welcome the public to this important event.

Initiated by the American Institute of Archeology in 2011, International Archeology Day celebrates archeology and the thrill of discovery. Across the US and Canada, archeologists present programs and activities for people of all ages and interests.

On October 18th, professional and avocational archeologists from all over the greater Houston area will celebrate the day by highlighting exciting discoveries in local archeology. The event will include artifact identification, presentations and programs about archeological excavations in the Houston area (including Dimond Knoll, discovered along the Grand Parkway), and displays of artifacts from other local sites, including a large collection of prehistoric stone tools recovered along Buffalo Bayou.

“We’ve been talking about putting on this event for several years and are excited that we are finally able to offer it to the public,” said Dr. August Costa of Rice University and one of the organizers of the event. “One of the highlights of the event will be our artifact identification table in the Grand Hall of the Museum, where experts will be on hand to identify items brought in by members of the public. We encourage participants to bring in their collections and learn more about what they’ve recovered.”

The event will also feature a family-friendly archeology fair with interactive hands-on displays using real artifacts recovered from archeological sites, including stone tools, prehistoric pottery, and animal bone and shell, flint-napping demonstrations, and arts and crafts for kids focusing on the prehistoric era. HMNS docents will man the Museum touch carts from several exhibits, including Egypt, Hall of the Americas and Paleontology and Human Evolution. Attendees will receive a goody bag with handouts from participating organizations, including bookmarks, rulers, brochures and other surprises.

This event is sponsored by the Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Houston Archeological Society, Rice University Archaeology, the Texas Department of Transportation and several other local groups. Exhibits in the Grand Hall of the museum will be free of charge. Additional exhibits in Glassell Hall will be free for HMNS members but will require an entry ticket for others.

For more information contact Linda Gorski, president of the Houston Archeological Society at lindagorski@cs.com.
Earlier this year a collection of artifacts, collected primarily during the 1940s, was given to the Houston Archeological Society. The society also received a journal of field notes and other documents pertaining to the collection. The collection and its associated documentation was the work of the late W. Marshall Black, an avocational archeologist who was also a talented experimental potter and a long-time member of the society. Most of the artifacts were projectile points, mounted and framed, but also included a small assemblage of loose artifacts. It was decided that the collection would be analyzed and documented by society members and that the analysis would be undertaken during regularly scheduled lab sessions held in the archeology lab at Rice University.

Prior to any analysis being undertaken, the five groups of artifacts were photographed and given group designations: Group 1: 10 unprovenienced, loose artifacts; Group 2: 10 mounted and framed artifacts from San Patricio County; Group 3: 27 mounted and framed projectile points from Frio County; Group 4 consists of one mounted large gray chert knife from the Addicks Midden Burial; and Group 5 contains 102 mounted and framed projectile points from Harris County. A cropped photo of Group 5 was featured on page 8 of Sarah H. Emmott’s publication, *Memorial Park: A Priceless Legacy*, published by Herring Press of Houston in 1992.

Analysis and documentation of the Group 1 artifacts was conducted during two lab sessions held in August. Artifacts in this group included seven dart points, one drill/perforator, one smooth polished stone—possibly a gastrolith or gizzard stone, and one reconstructed decorated bowl reminiscent of southwestern pottery. The beautifully executed bowl has a red on buff motif resembling a sunburst and was probably a purchased piece.

HAS members who participated in lab work during August were: Beth and Pat Aucoin, Linda Gorski, Mike Johnston, Kristin Josvoll, Melissa May, Kate McElvaney, Carlos Rendon, Carol Roberts, Bob Sewell, and team Coon-Nguyen.

Analysis of the remaining groups of artifacts will be conducted during future lab sessions.

*Beth Aucoin*
Texas Botanical Gardens and
Native American Interpretative Center

A Prairie Experience V - 2014
October 4, 2014

5-9pm – Fundraiser and Private Preview of the Texas Botanical Gardens and Native American Interpretative Center

Join other special guests as we celebrate Prairie Experience V inside the newly completed Texas Botanical Gardens, an authentic reproduction of Mills County as it existed 3,000 years ago, located at Legacy Plaza in downtown Goldthwaite, Texas. Seating limited to 350 guests.

Featuring: Refreshment Hour with Exhibit Tours in The Gardens, Seated Dinner, Live and Silent Auctions, Cultural Presentations by Members of the Comanche Nation In Ceremonial Dress.

For more information, go to www.legacyplaza.org, or call 325-642-7527 or email Executive Director Jan Fischer at lhvingwmn@centex.net

GRAND OPENING
October 11, 2014

10:00 a.m. - Gates Open
10:30 - 11:00 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
11:15 a.m. - Exhibits Open

Meander throughout the Gardens while enjoying:
- Our Children’s Discovery Garden
- Comanche friends sharing their culture
- Instructive exhibits
- Demonstrations of flint knapping, hot rock cooking, bed rock mortar use, fire starting and arrow construction
- Guests in the fields of Archaeology, Medicinal Use of Plants, Comanche Culture, Birds & Insects of Central Texas, Native Plants

Noon - 1:30 p.m. - Lunch Snacks
2:00 - 4:30 p.m. - Cookies and Lemonade
5:00 p.m. - Gates Close

For more information, go to www.legacyplaza.org

The Texas Botanical Gardens and Native American Interpretative Center is located at:

Mills County Museum
U.S. 183 & 3rd St, Goldthwaite, Mills, Texas 76844
September 18, 2014

Wilson W. “Dub Crook” will present a program on some new paleo and prehistoric finds on the East Fork of the Trinity River including three pottery vessels plus a cache of five bifaces, a Zoomorphic chipped stone artifact (turtle), and an engraved slate gorget. The artifacts all have significance with regards to trade patterns in east Texas.

October 16

Dr. Jeffrey Fleischer Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Rice University will present a program on Stone Towns of the Swahili Coast which was the subject of a major article in the January/February 2014 issue of Archeology Magazine.

November 20, 2014

Dr. Gregg Dimmick will present a program on archeology at the San Jacinto Battleground including an update on artifacts discovered at the Alamonte surrender site.

December 18, 2014

Linda Gorski, HAS President will present the highlights of the society’s archeological activities in 2014.

All Houston Archeological Society meetings are free of charge and open to the public. For more information about HAS see our website at www.txhas.org or email lindagorski@cs.com. You can also join our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/groups/123659814324626/

Please submit articles for publication to The Profile Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Submit articles no later than September 30th for the October 2014 issue.